

<b>FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (MODIFIED) U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (37 CFR 1.98(b))	<b>ATTY. DOCKET NO.</b> 97-1804 (99-379-US)	<b>SER. NO.</b> 09/478,702
	<b>APPLICANT</b> VAN TASSEL et al.	
	<b>FILING DATE</b> January 6, 2000	<b>GROUP</b> 1774



### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Patent Number	Issue Date	Patentee	Class/ Subclass	Filing Date
<i>WJ</i>	A	4794048	Dec. 27, 1988	OBOODI ET AL.		
<i>AB</i>	B	5175928	Jan. 5, 1993	GRABBE		

### FOREIGN PATENT OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATION

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class/ Subclass	Translation Yes/No

### OTHER DOCUMENTS

(Including Author, Title, Date, Relevant Pages, Place of Publication)

Examiner Initial	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
<i>WJ</i>	<i>2/6/01</i>

**EXAMINER:** Initial citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.